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Now this is rawest fiction—
A parabolic lie;
For hardy Klondike miners
Would rather starve and die
Than outrage right and justice
In such a cruel way:
Though rough in dress and manner,
They like to see fair play.
But these supposed transactions
Exactly represent
How pious Christian nations
Cause heathen *to repent.*

EUREKA, ILL.

New Books.

THE REDEMPTION OF WAR. By Francis Paget, D.D. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co. Cloth, 73 pages. Price, 90 cents.

This little book is a collection of nine sermons by Dr. Paget, dean of Christ Church, London, seven of which were preached at special services to the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars, of whom he is chaplain, and the other two on other occasions, the ninth one in January last.

Dr. Paget holds a mixed view of war. He appreciates "the strain, and suffering, and terror, and dismay, and fierceness, and agony, and death, and sorrow" found in it, and he has nothing but condemnation for the "hot words," "the temper of impatience," the "irresponsible excitement," the "talking big," and other exhibitions of selfishness and ambition by which war is brought on. But he believes, or seems to believe, that in spite of its horrors and cruelties war has something in it that in measure redeems it. This he finds in "the beauty and splendor of character that men, by God's grace, show in it," in the "self-sacrifice," the "unquestioning acceptance of duty," the "deeds of utter self-devotion" which "flash forth" in battle, etc.

Dr. Paget does not grapple at all with the real moral character of war. The passions which fighting necessarily awakens, the hatred and contempt of the foe, the moral degradation of the men, the loss of the sense of the sacredness of life, the brutalizing of the soldier, the profanity and vileness of speech induced, the endless chain of animosity between peoples growing out of war, seem to be unknown to him. He recognizes no difference, so far as his language indicates, between the "downright self-sacrifice" of Paul, who, unarmed, went out to try by means of truth and love to bring the world to the Master, and the self-sacrifice of the soldier rushing into some "venture of heroism," one of whose purposes at the moment is to beat down and kill as many of the foe as possible.

Dr. Paget's book, written in a fine, glowing style, is valuable in one particular. It reveals anew, from what it leaves unsaid, the utter futility of the attempt to make war, on any comprehensive view of it, appear a moral and glorious thing.

LET THERE BE LIGHT. By David Lubin. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Cloth, 526 pages.

This book, just from the press, is a somewhat novel study in economics and sociology. The reasoning is put in the form of a "story of a workingmen's club, its search for the causes of poverty and social inequality, its discussions, and its plan for the amelioration of existing evils." Its purpose is to show that *laissez faire* religious systems are untenable in a *laissez-faire* world. Mr. Lubin thinks that so long as this defect in the social system is present, so long must it be a futile labor to seek for peace. He advocates what may be called the socialization of religion — a Universal Church, "for all the people, by all the people and of all the people." When church contention ceases, then he thinks that social equilibrium will come about. A good deal of attention in the discussions is given to the constitution of the proposed Universal Church, its relations to Christianity, its educative influences, etc. The author believes that though the change proposed may seem at first glance to be radical, it will be found on further reflection to be on strict conservative lines and in accord with Christ and the prophets.

CHARLES SUMNER. By Moorfield Storey. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Cloth, 466 pages. Price, $1.25.

Mr. Storey, by giving the public this handy volume, has done a great service to the country. It comes just at the time when interest in Mr. Sumner and his great career has begun steadily to revive. Few people have time to read the four large volumes of Hon. E. L. Pierce's Life of Sumner, one of the best executed works in the whole range of American biography.

Mr. Storey has succeeded admirably in bringing into the compass of a single moderate-sized volume the story of Sumner's life, the nature of his connection with the stirring events of the stormy period which ended with the war and the enfranchisement of the negro, his moral leadership in creating a strong anti-slavery conscience in the nation, his persistent efforts to secure the negro in his civil rights, and his final struggle, during the second presidential campaign of General Grant, to defeat what he believed to be the threatened outcome of Grant's administration in "a personal government, semi-military in character and breathing the military spirit."

Mr. Storey, who is one of the ablest members of the Boston bar, was intimately acquainted with Mr. Sumner, having acted for several years as his private secretary. He writes most sympathetically, but not at all in a spirit of blind hero-worship. He does not conceal Sumner's defects of character, nor on the other hand does he magnify them to the Senator's detriment.

It strikes us that a little more space might well have been given to the oration on "The True Grandeur of Nations." The two pages and a half devoted by Mr. Storey to this event seem scarcely adequate. Mr. Sumner himself considered it the foremost of his speeches. It is read to-day more than all his other speeches combined. It gave him his oratorical standing, introduced him to public life, and connected his name forever with the great movement for the abolition of war, which in many respects is even more important than that for the abolition of slavery, to which Sumner gave the whole of his public life.

Every American young man looking to public life and desiring to fashion himself after the best models of statesmanship and patriotism ought to master the secrets of Sumner's spirit, life and work, and Mr. Storey's biography is the best book with which to begin the study.